



BUDGET

2024 - 2025

Joe Fagnant
Superintendent of Schools

Jeannie Tapley, Board Chair - Monticello

Sue McLaughlin, Vice Board Chair – Houlton

Ellen Askren – Houlton
Tammy Goetsch – Houlton
Michelle Henderson – Houlton
Stephanie Lively – Hammond
Linda Garcia – Houlton
Vacant – Littleton

Christopher Cain - Littleton
Margaret York – Houlton
Jennifer Johnston – Monticello
Gary Lovell – Houlton
Vacant - Houlton

District Budget Meeting Tuesday, May 14, 2024
HMHS Auditorium 6:00 pm

**WARRANT TO CALL
REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 29 BUDGET MEETING
(20-A M.R.S. § 1485)**

TO: I, Alfredo Casillas a resident of Regional School Unit No. 29 (the "RSU")
composed of the Towns of Hammond, Houlton, Littleton, and Monticello, State of Maine.

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify the voters of each of the municipalities within the Regional School Unit, namely, the Towns of Hammond, Houlton, Littleton, and Monticello, that a Regional School Unit Budget Meeting will be held at Houlton Middle and High School, 7 Bird Street, Houlton, Maine at 6:00 p.m. on June 14, 2024 for the purpose of determining the Budget Meeting Articles for the 2024-2025 fiscal year set forth below.

ARTICLE 1A: To elect a moderator to preside at the meeting.

**ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 11
AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN COST CENTER CATEGORIES**

- ARTICLE 1:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction.
School Board Recommends \$ 6,227,048.87
- ARTICLE 2:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Special Education.
School Board Recommends \$ 3,405,453.04
- ARTICLE 3:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Career and Technical Education.
School Board Recommends \$ 0
- ARTICLE 4:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction.
School Board Recommends \$ 376,611.00
- ARTICLE 5:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support.
School Board Recommends \$ 1,730,346.51
- ARTICLE 6:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for System Administration.
School Board Recommends \$ 699,361.37
- ARTICLE 7:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for School Administration.
School Board Recommends \$ 664,633.50

- ARTICLE 8:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses.
School Board Recommends \$ 1,086,545.32
- ARTICLE 9:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance.
School Board Recommends \$ 2,233,794.47
- ARTICLE 10:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.
School Board Recommends \$ 0
- ARTICLE 11:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures.
School Board Recommends \$ 0

ARTICLE 12
RAISES FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

- ARTICLE 12:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and to see what sum the Regional School Unit will raise and assess as each municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.
Recommended amounts set forth below:

Total Appropriated (by municipality):		Total Raised (and Regional School Unit assessments by municipality):	
Town of Hammond	\$ 128,740.45	Town of Hammond	\$ 60,573.00
Town of Houlton	\$ 11,541,288.78	Town of Houlton	\$ 2,113,214.34
Town of Littleton	\$ 1,778,958.95	Town of Littleton	\$ 412,646.66
Town of Monticello	\$ 1,180,608.45	Town of Monticello	\$ 381,974.00
Total Appropriated (sum of above)	\$ 14,629,596.63	Total Raised (sum of above)	\$ 2,968,408.00

Explanation: The Regional School Unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that the Regional School Unit must raise and assess in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.

ARTICLE 13 Written Ballot Required

ARTICLE 13: To see what sum Regional School Unit will raise and appropriate in additional local funds (recommend \$750,000 which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$750,000, as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board.

The School Board recommends **\$750,000**, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$750,000. The School Board gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's essential Programs and Services funding model. These additional funds are needed to fund expenses that are not covered by the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model. This model does not fully cover the costs of regular classroom instruction, special education instruction, extracurricular and co-curricular student activities, district administration and leadership, student transportation and school technology.

ARTICLE 14: SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

To see what sum the Regional School Unit will authorize the School Board to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 from the Regional School Unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts, for the support of schools.

School Board recommends **\$16,423,793.83**.

ARTICLE 15: AUTHORIZES THE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM AND RAISES THE LOCAL SHARE

To see if Regional School Unit will appropriate \$353,871.00 for adult education and raise \$85,000 as the local share, with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the adult education program.

ARTICLE 16: AUTHORIZES THE EXPENDITURES OF GRANTS AND OTHER RECEIPTS

In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the School Board be authorized to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school and other program purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

ARTICLE 17: AUTHORIZES THE EXPENDITURES OF GRANTS AND OTHER RECEIPTS

Shall the Region Two career and technical education operating budget as approved by the cooperative board for the year beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 be approved in the amount of \$2,602,317.14.

RSU No. 29 shall raise \$0.00 as the local assessment for the Region Two operating budget.

ARTICLE 18: AUTHORIZES THE ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET FOR THE CAREER AND TECHNICAL REGION AND RAISES THE LOCAL SHARE

Shall the Region Two School of Applied Technology approve a budget for adult education in the amount of \$61,437.00 for the year beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and well-being of its adult education program, and shall Regional School Unit No. 29 raise \$12,532.50 as its share of the adult education budget for Region Two School of Applied Technology?

ARTICLE 19: AUTHORIZES FUND TRANSFERS TO THE FACILITIES RESERVE ACCOUNT AND AUTHORIZES EXPENDITURES

Shall the School Board be authorized to transfer up to \$30,000. to the Facilities Reserve Fund from available year-end fund balances to pay unanticipated facilities repair/upgrade costs, and to expend from said Reserve Fund as needed in the discretion of the School Board?

ARTICLE 20: AUTHORIZES FUND TRANSFERS TO THE SPECIAL EDUCATION RESERVE ACCOUNT AND AUTHORIZES EXPENDITURES

Shall the School Board be authorized to transfer up to \$30,000. to the Special Education Reserve Fund from available year-end fund balances to pay unanticipated Special Education costs, and to transfer up to expend from said Reserve Fund as needed in the discretion of the School Board.

ARTICLE 21: AUTHORIZES CONTINGENCY FUND TRANSFER

Shall the Regional School Unit authorize the School Board to transfer the RSU's unallocated balances in excess of 9% of the prior fiscal year's budget, as determined by audit, for periods of financial emergency pursuant to to the section 1482-B(3) of Title 20-A; and shall the RSU delegate authority to the School Board to expend sums in the contingency fund when the School Board determines by public vote that an emergency need exists, and to transfer sums in the contingency fund to the RSU's general fund for use in school operating budgets approved by RSU voters?

ARTICLE 22 - AUTHORIZES TRANSFERS OF APPROPRIATIONS AMONG COST CENTERS

Shall the School Board of the Regional School Unit be authorized to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, provided that transfers shall not be permitted to increase the authorized total school budget?

ARTICLE 23 - AUTHORIZES THE DISPOSITION OF ANY ADDITIONAL STATE SUBSIDY RECEIVED

In the event that the Regional School Unit receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, shall the School Board be authorized to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the School Board, increase the allocation of finances in a reserve fund approved by the School Board, and/or decrease the local cost share expectation, as defined in Title 20-A, section 15671-A(I)(B), for local property taxpayers for funding public education as approved by the School Board?

Dated as of this 6th day of May, 2024

Jennifer J. Johnston

Margaret York

Sammy Goetz

Susan McLaughlin

Ellen J. Askren

Christopher B. Conroy

Jeanie Tapley

A majority of the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 29

A true copy of the Warrant, attest:

R. L. Castillo
R. Rodolfo Castillo Resident
Regional School Unit 29

**RSU29
FY25 Proposed Revenue and Expense with Variance**

	FY25 Proposed Revenue and Expense with Variance			Variance FY25 vs. FY24	
	22-23	23-24	24-25	\$\$\$	%
Local Required Add'l					
2,902,480.00	2,974,099.01	2,968,408.00	(5,691.01)	-0.19%	
-	260,013.48	750,000.00	489,986.52		
Total Local	2,902,480.00	3,234,112.49	3,718,408.00	484,295.51	14.97%
District Carryover Undesignated					
350,000.00	350,000.00	400,000.00	50,000.00	14.29%	
350,000.00	350,000.00	450,000.00	100,000.00	28.57%	
Misc.					
Interest - short-term investments	22,000.00	22,000.00	22,000.00	-	0.00%
Tuition Elem/Second	10,000.00	36,000.00	25,000.00	(11,000.00)	#DIV/0!
Interest credit on tax-exempt bond	20,000.00	23,000.00	13,000.00	(10,000.00)	-43.48%
Athletics gate receipts	28,500.00	27,000.00	25,000.00	(2,000.00)	-7.41%
MaineCare reimbursements	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	-	0.00%
Transportation receipts	10,000.00	10,000.00	11,000.00	1,000.00	10.00%
Fuel tax refunds	96,000.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	-	0.00%
All Other -					
Total Misc.	193,000.00	135,000.00	113,000.00	(22,000.00)	-16.30%
TOTAL REVENUES	15,502,297.12	15,714,892.00	16,423,793.83	708,901.83	4.51%



PSU 29

Preparing Learners for a Changing World

Proposed Deductions by Cost Center

	24-25 1st DRAFT	24-25 1st CUTS	Total deductions	24-25 Proposed Bgt
Proposed Deductions by Cost Center				
Cost Center 1 - Regular Instruction	\$ 6,885,065.00	\$ 6,224,212.11	\$ 660,852.89	\$ 6,227,049
Cost Center 2 - Special Education	\$ 3,506,753.00	\$ 3,405,453.04	\$ 101,299.96	\$ 3,405,453
Cost Center 3 - CTE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cost Center 4 - Other Instruction (Extra Curricular)	\$ 517,611.00	\$ 376,611.00	\$ 141,000.00	\$ 376,611
Cost Center 5 - Student/Staff Instruct. Support	\$ 1,734,158.00	\$ 1,730,346.51	\$ 3,811.49	\$ 1,730,347
Cost Center 6 - System Administration	\$ 706,505.00	\$ 699,361.37	\$ 7,143.63	\$ 699,361
Cost Center 7 - School Administration (Principals)	\$ 677,131.00	\$ 664,633.50	\$ 12,497.50	\$ 664,634
Cost Center 8 - Transportation	\$ 1,108,284.00	\$ 1,086,545.32	\$ 21,738.68	\$ 1,086,545
Cost Center 9 - Maintenance/Facilities	\$ 2,250,413.00	\$ 2,233,794.47	\$ 16,618.53	\$ 2,233,794
Cost Center 10 - Debt Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cost Center 11 - All Other	\$ 14,000.00	\$ -	\$ 14,000.00	\$ -
Carryover reduction	\$ -	\$ (50,000)	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
TOTALS	\$ 17,399,920	\$ 16,370,957	\$ 1,028,962.68	\$ 16,423,794
FINAL BUDGET for FY 24-25 with 4.51% Increase				
VARIANCE				\$0.00

State Mandated Local Effort Comparison

2023-2024

State Mills = 6.97

Town	3 Yr Average State Valuation	Mills	Mills	Required Local Effort	Percent	Incr/Decr Since 22-23	Additional Local	Adult Ed Region II Local Share	Adult Ed	Total Local Assessment	Change Over 22-23	
											\$	%
Town												
Hammond	\$ 8,866,667.00	6.97	0.00697	\$ 61,800.67	2.08%	\$ 330.67	\$ 5,407.97	\$ 261.00	\$ 1,683.00	\$ 69,147.64	\$ 5,407.57	8.48%
Houlton	\$ 305,550,000.00	6.97	0.00697	\$ 2,129,683.50	71.61%	\$ 338,496.84	\$ 186,189.29	\$ 8,994.10	\$ 62,866.00	\$ 2,387,732.89	\$ 223,961.64	10.35%
Littleton	\$ 58,816,667.00	6.97	0.00697	\$ 409,952.17	13.78%	\$ 12,233.83	\$ 35,840.40	\$ 1,731.31	\$ 11,670.50	\$ 459,194.38	\$ 47,957.19	11.66%
Monticello	\$ 53,466,667.00	6.97	0.00697	\$ 372,662.67	12.53%	\$ 20,857.67	\$ 32,580.33	\$ 1,573.83	\$ 8,780.50	\$ 415,597.33	\$ 53,376.86	14.74%
TOTAL	\$ 426,700,001.00	6.97	0.00697	\$ 2,974,099.01	100.00%	\$ 71,619.01	\$ 260,012.99	\$ 12,560.25	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 3,331,672.25	\$ 330,703.26	11.02%

State Mandated Local Effort Comparison

2024-2025

State Mills = 6.62

Town	3 Yr Average State Valuation	Mills	Mills	Required Local Effort	Percent	Incr/Decr Since 23-24	Additional Local	Adult Ed Region II Local Share	Adult Ed	Total Local Assessment	Change Over 23-24	
											\$	%
Town												
Hammond	\$ 9,150,000.00	6.62	0.00662	\$ 60,573.00	2.04%	\$ (1,227.67)	\$ 15,304.42	\$ 255.74	\$ 1,683.00	\$ 77,816.15	\$ 8,698.52	12.54%
Houlton	\$ 319,216,667.00	6.62	0.00662	\$ 2,113,214.34	71.19%	\$ (16,469.16)	\$ 533,926.18	\$ 8,921.91	\$ 62,866.00	\$ 2,718,928.42	\$ 331,195.53	13.87%
Littleton	\$ 62,333,333.00	6.62	0.00662	\$ 412,646.66	13.90%	\$ 2,694.50	\$ 104,259.59	\$ 1,742.18	\$ 11,670.50	\$ 530,318.93	\$ 71,124.55	15.49%
Monticello	\$ 57,700,000.00	6.62	0.00662	\$ 381,974.00	12.87%	\$ 9,311.33	\$ 96,509.81	\$ 1,612.68	\$ 8,780.50	\$ 488,876.99	\$ 73,279.66	17.65%
TOTAL	\$ 448,400,000.00	6.62	0.00662	\$ 2,968,408.00	100.00%	\$ (55,691.01)	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 12,532.50	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 3,815,940.50	\$ 484,268.25	14.54%

3 Year Evaluation Town	23-24 to 24-25 Increase	%
Hammond	\$ 283,333.00	3.20%
Houlton	\$ 13,666,667.00	4.47%
Littleton	\$ 3,516,866.00	5.98%
Monticello	\$ 4,233,333.00	7.92%
TOTAL	\$ 21,699,999.00	5.09%

Motion: I move that the Vote entitled, "Vote to Call and Approve the Warrants for the Budget Meeting be approved in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be included with the minutes of this meeting.

VOTE TO CALL AND APPROVE THE WARRANTS FOR THE BUDGET MEETING

VOTED: That the warrant for the Regional School Unit No. 29 (the "Regional School Unit") Budget Meeting presented to the meeting be approved and that a Regional School Unit budget meeting be called for May 14, 2024 for the purpose of voting on the annual budget for the Regional School Unit for the 2024-25 fiscal year;
and

That the Budget Meeting Warrant shall be signed by a majority of the School Board members and that their signatures, may be electronically, by execution of counterparts, or in person following this meeting.

A true copy as adopted by a majority of the School Board, attest:



Joe Vagnant, Secretary

(Note: Include with meeting minutes.)